Peter M Hills

Direct Ancestors back to King Alfred the Great

Notes

Direct ancestors are people related through parent-child relationships only – i.e. brothers, sisters, cousins, uncles, aunts, in-laws, divorcees, etc. are not included.

My Great-grandfathers and Great-grandmothers are indicated below by GGF and GGM. The preceding digits are the generation number.

For each generation, the *first* listed was the child who went on to continue the line. GGF indicates that child was male. GGM indicates that child was female.

36 x GGF	King Alfred the Great (849-899)
36xGGM	Ealhswith of Wessex (Not known-902)
35xGGM	Aelftryth of Wessex (877-929) – Youngest daughter of King Alfred. She had three children in addition to Arnulf I of Flanders.
35 x GGF	Baldwin II of Flanders (865-918)
34 x GGF	Arnulf I of Flanders (890-964)
34 x GGM	Adele of Vermandois (910-960)
33 x GGF	Baldwin III of Flanders (940-962)
33 x GGM	Mathilda of Saxony (935-1008)
32 x GGF	Arnulf II of Flanders (961-987)
32 x GGM	Rozala of Italy (952-1003)
31 x GGF	Baldwin IV of Flanders (980-1035)
31 x GGM	Ogive of Luxembourg (986-1030)
30 x GGF	Balwin V of Flanders (1012-1067)
30 x GGM	Adela of France (1009-1079)
29 x GGM	Matilda of Flanders (1031-1083) – Daughter of Baldwin V.
29 x GGF	King William the Conqueror (1035 – 1087)
28 x GGF	King Henry I (1068-1135)
28 x GGM	Matilda of Scotland (1080-1118)

27 x GGM	Matilda of England (1102-1167) – or ‘Empress Matilda’. Daughter of King Henry I.
27 x GGF	Geoffrey V Plantagenet (1113-1151) – First recorded use of the Plantagenet surname.
26 x GGF	King Henry II (1133-1189)
26 x GGM	Eleanor of Aquitaine (1122-1204)
25 x GGF	King John (1199-1216)
25 x GGM	Isabella of Angouleme (1186-1246)
24 x GGF	King Henry III (1207-1272)
24 x GGM	Eleanor of Provence (1223-1290)
23 x GGF	King Edward I (1239-1307)
23 GGM	Eleanor of Castile (1241-1290)
22 x GGF	King Edward II (1284-1327) – Murdered at Berkeley Castle on 21st September 1327. Berkeley was my birthplace and Edward’s death was on my birthday 618 years earlier.
22 x GGM	Isabella (Capet) Plantagenet (1292-1358) – aka ‘Isabella of France’.
21 x GGF	King Edward III (1312-1377)
21 x GGM	Philippa of Hainault (1315-1369)
20 x GGF	Sir John Plantagenet KG (1340-1399) aka ‘John of Gaunt’.
20 x GGM	Katherine (Roet) Swynford (1350-1403)
19 x GGM	Lady Joan Beaufort LG (1379-1440). John of Gaunt’s only daughter.
19 x GGF	Sir Ralph Neville KG (1364-1425). Founder of the Lancastrian wing of the Plantagenet dynasty.
18 x GGF	Sir Richard Neville KG (1400-1460)
18 x GGM	Lady Alice Montague (1407-1462)

17 x GGF Sir John Neville KG (1431-1471). Brother of Sir Richard Neville KG. (1428-1471) Earl of Warwick, aka ‘The Kingmaker’.

17 x GGM Isabel Ingoldesthorpe (1439-1476)

16 x GGM Lady Anne Neville (1462-1486). 1st Cousin to Queen Anne Neville of King Richard III.

16 x GGF Sir William Stonor (1445-1495)

Also 16 x GGM Alice Boleyn (1438-1485)

Also 16 x 2nd Cousin Queen Anne Boleyn (1507-1536)

15 x GGM Lady Anne Stonor (1486-1518)

15 x GGF Sir Adriane Fortescue (1476-1539)

14 x GGM Lady Margaret Fortescue (1502-1551)

14 x GGF Sir Thomas Wentworth (1501-1551)

13 x GGM Lady Anne Wentworth (1520-1575)

13 x GGF Sir John Poley (1511-1589)

12 x GGF William Poley (1540-1605)

12 x GGM Elizabeth Wood (1540-1605)

11 x GGF Thomas Poole (1561-1619)

11 x GGM Susan Howes (1563-1616)

10 x GGF William Poole (1592-1674)

10 x GGM Joane Smith (1597-1625)

9 x GGF Mathew Poole (1639-1713)

9 x GGM Joane Crofts (1644-1694)

8 x GGM Mary Poole (1673- Not Known)

8 x GGF William Church (1670-Not Known)

7 x GGM	Jane Church (1707-1748)
7 x GGF	Nathaniel Harcome (1704-1741)
6 x GGM	Anne Harcome (1724-1802)
6 x GGF	Simon Lustye (1724-1832)
5 x GGF	Arthur Lustye (1758-1831)
5 x GGM	Hannah Lusty (1748-1832)

Also 5 x GGM was Sarah Anne Nelmes (nee Baker). She was the dairy maid who helped Edward Jenner develop his smallpox vaccine. The hide of Sarah's cow 'Blossom' hangs in the library of St George's medical school in London. A museum dedicated to Jenner is in the grounds of Berkeley Castle, Gloucestershire.

4 x GGM	Martha Lustye (1783-1869)
4 x GGF	Owen Osborne (1777-1848)
3 x GGM	Harriet Osborne (1822-1863)
3 x GGF	Thomas Nelmes (1819-1895)
2 x GGF	William Nelmes (1849-1944)
2 x GGM	Susan Knight (1847-1928)
1 x GGM	Doris Beatrice Nelmes (1870-1937)
1 x GGF	Oliver Claude Smith (1871-1946)

Conundrums:

It's astonishing to have discovered the names of 72 parents back to King Alfred the Great. He was the most famous of the Anglo-Saxon kings and defended England against the Vikings.

Some say that modern Britains are all descended from Alfred. That's just not true - the population of England in Alfred's time was around half a million and they were probably all prolific breeders. Many of the GGM's in my list had one child every year for 20 years.

Alfred had four children with his wife Ealhswith. Aelflhryth was his youngest daughter and my GGM 36 x removed. She had four children. If each husband/wife pair had on average four children over 36 generations that would be 472236648286964521 3696 offspring – clearly ridiculous.

The number of great-grandparents (GGP's) doubles with each generation. Yes really. The number of GGP's at generation 36 is 2 to the power 36 which is 68,719,476,736 but the population then was only 500,000. That demonstrates that there was a vast amount of duplication/unconscious inbreeding and a wrecking of ancestral lines by wars, plagues

and pandemics – smallpox, English sweating sickness, black death and cholera among them.

To have found the route to King Alfred through my ancestral tree involved hundreds of hours of work and an enormous amount of good luck. That luck was discovering Lady Margaret Fortescue - the rest is history shall we say.

Peter M Hills

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